

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/067,815	SUGIYAMA, KENJI	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Tung T. Vo	2613	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
  3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
  4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☒ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-8 are allowed.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Fujiwara (US 5,880,785) discloses a picture coding apparatus for coding a video signal by way of total data amount control.

Sugiyama (US 5,315,326) discloses an efficient coding/decoding apparatus for encoding an image signal with a less quantity of codes.

Kimura (US 2001/0033692 A1) discloses an image change detecting apparatus and image change detecting method comprises a differentiating device differentiates twice a value of image signal corresponding to a plurality of line-pixels on a single predetermined line, of pixels forming a signal static image.

Neither Fujiwara, Sugiyama, nor Kimura teaches a video-emphasis encoding apparatus and method for applying an emphasis processing to an input video signal to obtain a video bitstream comprising an emphasis-level setter for setting an emphasis level to the input video signal in accordance with at least one factor among control data carried by the input video signal, a picture state detected from the input video signal and encoding conditions for the input video signal; an emphasisizer for applying the emphasis processing to the input video signal at the emphasis level to obtain an emphasized video signal; an encoder for encoding the emphasized video signal to obtain a video bitstream; and a multiplexer for multiplexing the video bitstream and data on the emphasis level as specified in claims 1 and 4.

Neither Fujiwara, Sugiyama, nor Kimura teaches a video-deemphasis decoding apparatus and method for decoding and applying processing to an input video bitstream comprising: a deemphasis-level setter for setting a deemphasis level that matches an emphasis level obtained from emphasis-level data carried by the video bitstream to which an input video signal has been encoded and emphasized at the emphasis level; a decoder for decoding the input video bitstream for reproducing the video signal; and a deemphasizer for applying the deemphasis processing to the reproduced video signal at the deemphasis level to obtain a de-emphasized video signal as specified in claims 5 and 8.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### ***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung T. Vo whose telephone number is (703) 308-5874. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris. Kelley can be reached on (703) 305-4856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**TUNG T. VO**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**

T.Vo

Tung T. Vo  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2613